

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments, and the following remarks.

The amendments to this patent application are to cancel rejected independent claim 15, and to change the dependency of claims 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27, such that each of these claims now depends from allowed claim 28.

Reconsideration and withdrawal are respectfully requested for the rejection of claims 15-27 and 29-31 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Narayama et al U.S. Patent No. 5,266,262* in view of *Bezner U.S. Patent No. 4,352,772* for reasons cited in the previous Office Action.

Because claim 28 has been allowed, and because all of the claims 16 to 27 and 29 to 31 have been amended to depend either directly or indirectly from claim 28, all of the claims are now believed to be allowable. Withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

In summary, claim 15 has been cancelled, claims 16 and 19 to

27 have been amended, and claims 16 to 31 are pending. In view of the above amendments, it is firmly believed that the present invention, and all the claims, are patentable under 35 U.S.C. 103 over all the prior art applied by the Patent Examiner. A prompt notification of allowability is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

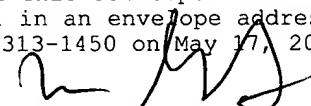
Kay BRODESSER Et Al

By: 

COLLARD & ROE, P.C.
1077 Northern Boulevard
Roslyn, New York 11576
(516) 365-9802
ERF:djp

Allison C. Collard, Reg.No.22,532
Edward R. Freedman, Reg.No.26,048
Frederick J. Dorchak, Reg.No.29,298
Attorneys for Applicant

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 17, 2004.


Maria Guastella